

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00216 132011Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 SSO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIE-00
EB-08 COME-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
INRE-00 TRSE-00 /031 W
-----009793 132021Z /43

O 132005Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5957
ALL CONGENS IN CANADA BY POUCH

UNCLAS OTTAWA 00216

PASS AGRIC FOR HUGHES/FAS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, PFOR, CA
SUBJECT: U.S. FARMERS BLOCKADE

REFS: (A) OTTAWA 00193; (B) CALGARY 18

1. LEAD STORY ON CTV NATIONAL NEWS THURSDAY NIGHT JANUARY
12 DEALT WITH CATTLE WAR CENTERING ON V.P. MONDALE VISIT
TO GREAT FALLS, MONTANA. PORTIONS OF THIS WERE REPEATED
ON FRIDAY MORNING BROADCAST.

2. ANNOUNCER OPENED BY STATING THAT WASHINGTON HAD SENT
TOP BRASS (VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE) TO
MONTANA TO COOL DOWN THE CATTLE WAR ON THE CANADIAN BORDER
IN THE WEST. FILM CLIPS WERE SHOWN OF FARMERS PICKETING
DEMONSTRATIONS AND SCENES AT KINGSTON, B.C. WHERE 11 CATTLE
TRUCKS PASSED THROUGH PICKET LINES. ANNOUNCER STATED
ONE U.S. FARMER ARRESTED BY LOCAL SHERIFF.

3. ANNOUNCER NOTED THAT U.S. CATTLEMEN WANT HIGHER PRICES
AND AN END TO IMPORTS ESPECIALLY FROM CANADA ADDING THAT
CANADIANS ARE CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE IN A BATTLE BETWEEN U.S.
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CATTLEMEN AND WASHINGTON.

4. SCENE SHIFTED TO ARRIVAL OF VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY
BERGLAND WITH ANNOUNCER NOTING THAT BOTH SEEMED UNPERTURBED
BY THE FARMERS DEMONSTRATION.

5. FILM CLIPS AT GREAT FALLS, MONTANA CONTAINED VICE PRESIDENT'S

STATEMENT TO PICKETING FARMERS THAT QUOTE CLOSING THE BORDER IS NOT THE ANSWER. YOU CANNOT SELL EVERY THING YOU WANT TO SELL AND BUY NOTHING UNQUOTE. FARMERS INTERVIEWED EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT WASHINGTON WAS GETTING THE MESSAGE; ANOTHER SAID IT WAS ALL POLITICAL. NONE EXPRESSED ANY CONCERN ABOUT TRADE OBSTRUCTION OR POSSIBLE VIOLENCE.

6. ANNOUNCER CLOSED BY REFERRING TO VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT NEXT WEEK TO ALBERTA WHERE HOG PRODUCERS ARE THREATENING TO BLOCKADE IMPORTS OF U.S. HOGS AND WHERE PREMIER LOUGHEED HAS SAID U.S. WILL RECEIVE NO GAS UNLESS U.S. EASES UP ON TARIFFS INCLUDING ALBERTA BEEF.

7. FOREGOING REPORT ON TV NEWS BASED ON REVIEW OF USIS TAPE OF CTV NEWS BY AGATTACHE. ENDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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